

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 05143 01 OF 02 301733Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AF-08

OPIC-03 TRSY-02 /073 W  
----- 077602

R 301628Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8030

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LISBON 5143

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: CDS COOPERATION WITH SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT:

YES, BUT

REF: LISBON A-195 (DATED JULY 30, 1976)

SUMMARY: THE CENTER DEMOCRATS (CDS) REAFFIRMED AT THEIR PARTY CONGRESS THEIR INTENTION NOT TO OPPOSE THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT PROGRAM. CDS LEADERS COMPLAINED, HOWEVER, OF "UNPROVOKED ATTACKS" BY SOCIALIST DEPUTIES, AND WARNED THAT CDS COOPERATION IN THE ASSEMBLY COULD BE WITHDRAWN AT ANY TIME. THE CDS LEADERSHIP WAS REELECTED WITHOUT OPPOSITION, AND GAINED APPROVAL FOR LAUNCHING A NEW APPEAL TO THE WORKING CLASSES. WHILE MORE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS WITHIN THE CDS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 05143 01 OF 02 301733Z

EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE PARTY NOT TURN ITS BACK ON

THEM, THERE IS NO STRONG LEADER ON THE RIGHT TO CHALLENGE THE UNIVERSALLY-RESPECTED PARTY HIERARCHY. END SUMMARY.

1. OKAY TO SOCIALIST PROGRAM: AT THE CDS NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING JULY 10 AND 11 AND AT THE PARTY'S SECOND NATIONAL CONGRESS, JULY 23-25, THE CDS AFFIRMED ITS INTENTION TO OFFER "SELECTIVE SUPPORT" AND "COLLABORATIVE OPPOSITION" TO THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT. THE CENTER DEMOCRATS WILL NOT REQUEST A VOTE ON THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT PROGRAM. IF THE PROGRAM IS CALLED TO A VOTE, THE CDS WILL VOTE IN FAVOR OR ABSTAIN WHILE READING ITS POSITION INTO THE RECORD. SINCE A MAJORITY OF ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED TO DEFEAT THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, CDS ABSTENTION WOULD GUARANTEE ASSEMBLY "APPROVAL." OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF PARTY CONGRESS INCLUDED:

-- GOVERNMENT: REJECTION BY CDS VICE PRESIDENT AMARO DA COSTA OF MARIO SOARES'S RECENT ASSERTION THAT FAILURE TO REJECT THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM WOULD MAKE THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT ONE OF NATIONAL CONSENSUS. IN THE ABSENCE OF A FORMAL COALITION OR PARLIAMENTARY UNDERSTANDING, THE CDS INSISTED ON THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW ANY SUPPORT GIVEN THE SOCIALISTS.

-- SOCIALISTS: BITTER CRITICISM OF ALLEGED UNFAIR ATTACKS BY THE SOCIALISTS. WHILE MARIO SOARES PROMISED GREATER EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF EMIGRANTS AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION, PS DEPUTY CARLOS LAGE AND OTHER SOCIALIST DEPUTIES WERE SLANDERING THE CDS AS REACTIONARY FOR MAKING SIMILAR PROPOSALS IN THE ASSEMBLY.

-- PPD: REAFFIRMATION OF WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH THE PPD. THE CDS SHOULD SEEK TO CONVINCE PPD OF THE WISDOM OF THE TWO PARTIES WORKING TOGETHER. (READ: CONVINCE THE PPD TO ENTER INTO AN ALLIANCE FOR THIS FALL'S MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS).

-- PCP AND OTELO: DOWNGRADING OF OTELO. OTELO'S IMPORTANCE IS BEING OVERESTIMATED; THE GREATEST DANGER IS THE PCP WHICH MAY MOVE LEFT TO RECOVER FROM ITS ELECTION DEFEAT. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LISBON 05143 01 OF 02 301733Z

2. PEACE AND UNITY: THE CDS CONGRESS TOOK PLACE IN A LISBON THEATER TOTALLY FREE FROM THE HARASSMENT AND THREATS OF THE FIRST CDS CONGRESS IN OPORTO IN JANUARY 1975, OR THE FIRST LISBON RALLY OF THE CDS IN FEBRUARY 1976. TWELVE HUNDRED DELEGATES AND FOREIGN INVITEES PARTICIPATED IN THE THREE-DAY SESSION. THE CONGRESS WAS CAREFULLY PREPARED BEFOREHAND, AND THE

FOLLOWING PARTY LEADERSHIP WAS ELECTED WITHOUT OPPOSITION:  
PRESIDENT DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL; VICE PRESIDENT  
ADELINO AMARO DA COSTA; SECRETARY GENERAL BASILIO  
HORTA; TREASURER EDMUNDO PINHEIRO; AND SEVEN NATIONAL  
SECRETARIES. THE ONLY NOTES OF DISCORD AT THE  
CONGRESS WERE THOSE CAUSED BY THE LEADERSHIP'S DECISION  
TO PUCH THROUGH BROAD AUTHORITY FOR STATUTE AND  
PROGRAM REVISION WITH LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT  
FROM THE CONGRESS. SOME DELEGATES WISHED TO TAKE A  
HARSHER LINE ON DECOLONIZATION AND OTHER EMOTIONAL ISSUES  
THAN THE MODERATE LEADERSHIP. OTHERS SPOKE AGAINST ANY EXPLICIT  
REJECTION OF THE RIGHT. AFTER SOME DEBATE, HOWEVER, THE CONGRESS  
REAFFIRMED ITS REJECTION OF KAULZA'S CALL FOR A NEW POLITICAL  
MOVEMENT (REFAIR). FREITAS DO AMARAL, WHO LEFT A SICK BED TO  
PARTICIPATE, DID MUCH TO EASE TENSIONS.

3. WORKER APPEAL: THE THEME OF THE CONGRESS  
WAS "CHRISTIAN PERSONALISM - A POPULAR AND EUROPEAN  
COMMITMENT." AMARO DA COSTA ARUGUED THAT THIS THEME  
COULD HAVE GREAT APPEAL TO WORKERS IN CATHOLIC  
PORTUGAL. THE CONGRESS APPROVED A PROPOSAL TO  
ENCOURAGE CDS EXPANSION INTO UNIONS, WORKERS'  
COMMISSIONS, AND POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS. THE CONGRESS  
ALSO AUTHORIZED THE NATIONAL COUNCIL TO REVISE THE  
CDS PROGRAM TO CALL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN  
ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY, BASED ON CHRISTIAN IDEALS AND  
EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. THE CDS'S EUROPEAN TIES WERE GIVEN  
PROMINENT PLAY WITH REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT FROM THE ITALIAN  
DC, GERMAN CDU, FRENCH CDS, BRITISH CONSERVATIVE AND OTHER  
EUROPEAN PARTIES.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 05143 02 OF 02 301738Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AF-08

OPIC-03 TRSE-00 /071 W

----- 077655

R 301628Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8031  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL OPORTO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION NATO  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LISBON 5143

4. COMMENT: THE CDS EVOCATION OF CHRISTIAN AND EUROPEAN THEMES IS AN EFFORT TO LEGITIMIZE THE CDS CLAIM TO BE PORTUGAL'S ONLY GENUINE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY WITH EUROPEAN SUPPORT. THE MISERABLE SHOWING OF THE PORTUGUESE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (0.54 PERCENT) HELPS THE CDS CASE, AS DOES AMARO DA COSTA'S WORK ON BEHALF OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS IN ITALY'S JUNE ELECTIONS.

5. THE CDS, WHICH HAS EXISTED FOR TWO YEARS AS A SMALL, COHESIVE PARTY, IS SUFFERING FROM MORE INTERNAL DISAGREEMENTS AS IT EXPANDS. THE LONG-TERM PROBLEM FOR THE CDS REMAINS WHETHER TO HOLD THE CENTER-RIGHT GROUND IT NOW OCCUPIES OR MOVE FURTHER TO ITS RIGHT. THE LEADERSHIP OPTED FOR THE CENTRIST COURSE AT THE CONGRESS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 05143 02 OF 02 301738Z

AND SO DOMINATES THE CDS THAT ITS DECISION WAS NEVER EFFECTIVELY CHALLENGED. THE MOVES TO EXPAND THE PARTY'S BASE AND TO SEEK ALLIANCE WITH THE PPD IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS REFLECTS THE BELIEF THAT THE CDS MUST QUICKLY PRODUCE SOME SUCCESSES. PARTY LEADERS ARE CONCERNED OVER THE POOR CDS SHOWING IN THE AZOREAN AND MADEIRAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, AND FEAR THAT THE CDS ON ITS OWN MIGHT WIN ONLY ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF PORTUGAL'S MUNICIPALITIES. WE THINK PROSPECTS FOR SIGNIFICANT CDS GROWTH AMONG WORKERS ARE SLIM. CARLUCCI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LISBON05143  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760295-0314  
**From:** LISBON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t1976075/aaaaaeca.tel  
**Line Count:** 216  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 LISBON A-195  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CDS COOPERATION WITH SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT: YES, BUT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PO, CDS, CENTER DEMOCRATS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006